

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:) Attorney Docket No. 087522785336
Machael, Jay R. et al.)
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Application No.: 10/750,576)
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Filed: December 30, 2003)
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For: CHAIR BACK REST WITH)
IMPROVED RESILIENCE AND)
SUPPORT)
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Examiner: White, Rodney Barnett)
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Art Unit: 3636)
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Confirmation No.: 8920)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Cancelled)

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The chair of claim 18 2-wherein said fluid
containing cushion is hermetically sealed.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) The chair of claim 18 4-wherein said fluid
containing the cushion is sized and dimensioned to be at least co-extensive with the area of a
user's lumbar region.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The chair of claim 18 4-wherein said fluid
containing cushion has a lower region and an upper region, and said cushion comprises one or
more channels extending between said lower region and said upper region.

Claim 6 (Original) The chair of claim 5 wherein said channels are substantially vertical.

Claim 7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) The chair of claim 18 1-wherein said fluid containing cushion is made of one or more plastic films selected from the group consisting of vinyls, polyurethanes, polyvinyl chlorides, ethylene vinyl acetates, urethane coated membranes, polyolefins, sarans, and engineered multi-layer films.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The chair of claim 18 2-wherein said seals are seal is-formed by a method selected from the group consisting of heat sealing, ultrasonic sealing, RF sealing, and adhesives.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) The chair of claim 18 1-wherein said fluid is selected from the group consisting of air, gas or gas mixtures, liquid, and flowable gel.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) The chair of claim 18 13-wherein said cushion comprises a plurality of chambers extending from a lower region of the cushion to an upper region of the cushion.

Claim 15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (New) A chair having a seat and a tiltable back, said back comprising a rear support; and a fluid containing cushion having a seal along a top portion, a seal along a bottom portion, a seal along a left side portion and a seal along a right side portion, said fluid containing cushion located forward of said rear support; wherein

said fluid containing cushion includes two layers sealed to form a vertically extending central chamber of generally constant width and vertically extending left and right side chambers, each of said chambers being completely sealed from one another.

Claim 19 (New) The chair of claim 18 wherein:

said sealed central chamber extends between said top and bottom portions of said cushion between two spaced apart straight, vertically extending seams.

Claim 20 (New) The chair of claim 19 wherein:

said left and right chambers extend between said top and bottom portions of said cushion.

Claim 21 (New) The chair of claim 18 wherein:

said left side chamber is partially divided by a vertically directed seam; and

said right side chamber is partially divided by a vertically directed seam.

Claim 22 (New) The chair of claim 21 wherein:

said left side chamber includes a middle seam extending from said seal along said top portion of said cushion; and

said right side chamber includes a middle seam extending from said seal along said top portion of said cushion.

Claim 23 (New) The chair of claim 22 wherein:

said middle seam of said left side chamber includes an enlarged lower end portion; and

said middle seam of said right side chamber includes an enlarged lower end portion.

Claim 24 (New) The chair of claim 23 wherein:

 said sealed central chamber extends between said top and bottom portions of said cushion between two spaced apart vertically extending seams.

Claim 25 (New) The chair of claim 24 wherein:

 said left and right chambers extend between said top and bottom portions of said cushion.

Claim 26 (New) The chair of claim 25 wherein:

 said two layers of said fluid containing cushion are generally air impermeable.

Claim 27 (New) The chair of claim 26 wherein:

 each of said two layers of said fluid containing cushion includes multiple layers.

Claim 28 (New) The chair of claim 18 wherein:

 said two layers of said fluid containing cushion are generally air impermeable.

Claim 29 (New) The chair of claim 28 wherein:

 each of said two layers of said fluid containing cushion includes multiple layers.

Claim 30 (New) A chair having a seat and a tiltable back, said back comprising:

 a rear support;

 a fluid containing cushion having a top portion, a bottom portion, a left side portion and a right side portion, said fluid containing cushion located forward of said rear support;

 a cushion layer located forward of said fluid containing cushion; and

 an upholstery layer located forward of said cushion layer; wherein

 said fluid containing cushion includes two layers sealed along a top portion, a bottom portion, a left side portion and a right side portion, first and second straight vertical

seams attaching said two layers, said first and second vertical seals extending from the top portion seal to the bottom portion seal to form a first completely sealed centrally located fluid chamber, a third vertical seam extending from the top portion seal toward the bottom portion seal to form second and third side chambers, said second and third side chambers being in fluid communication with each other but not with said first chamber, and a fourth vertical seam extending from the top portion seal toward the bottom portion seal to form fourth and fifth side chambers, said fourth and fifth side chambers being in fluid communication with each other but not with said first chamber.

Claim 31 (New) The chair of claim 30 wherein:

 said two layers of said fluid containing cushion are generally air impermeable.

Claim 32 (New) The chair of claim 31 wherein:

 each of said two layers of said fluid containing cushion includes multiple layers.